

THE INDUSTRIAL BOARD AS A PEACE INDUSTRIES BOARD

Plan as Worked Out by William W. Ritter and Adopted by the Cabinet. In a recent article by Bassett Blackley, Washington correspondent for Forbes Magazine, the following article relative to one of Manchester's new summer residents appeared. Mr. Ritter has been a very busy man during the war and has been able to spend but little of his time at his delightful summer home here.

"In its principal features the Industrial Board is a peace industries board, such as many of the dollar-a-year men argued was absolutely essential upon the lapse of the war board's power. The creation of such a system to continue the amicable understanding between the Government and business was declared to be necessary at that time, but the proposal met with little sympathy.

"William M. Ritter is the man who kept the idea alive and fostered it until the advantages of the plan were brought home to those in authority. Secretary Redfield, in announcing the formation of the board, gave full credit to Mr. Ritter as the real originator.

"The plan was one of slow growth and careful development. Last year Mr. Ritter undertook the adjustment of some of the labor questions which were laid before the War Industries Board, and the investigations made at that time convinced him that there should be a better understanding between the Government, business and labor. It must outlast the war and bind the three elements so closely that they might work together in the common interest.

"Ritter went about his work in a thorough, business-like manner. He employed two well-known economists out of his private funds and kept them at his house for almost a month. He made up a committee of six from the War Industries Board to study affairs, and for some part of each day through a period of three months they made investigations and talked over conditions. Out of that came a recommendation for a labor policy section of the board to bring together the best opinions in the country and secure the adoption of policies suitable for the reconstruction period. However, no action was taken.

"But the plan formulated was held in abeyance until the demand for some agency for readjustment became insistent. Ritter then presented it to members of the Cabinet, who at once hailed it as a solution for the difficulties confronting the country. It was the short cut to the operation of the law of supply and demand.

"Criticism naturally followed when the plan was disclosed to the public, but Ritter was prepared for these. One of the things he did in drafting his proposition was to call in one of the cleverest lawyers in the country.

"Here is the plan," he said. "Now read it over, give me the strictest cross examination in your power, and see where the scheme is a failure."

"The lawyer went after every possible weakness without developing a point that Ritter could not answer. "It is bullet proof," said the lawyer, and the business men are rendering the same verdict."

THE BEVERAGE TAX

Excerpts From Telegram Received by Collector Seth Jones From the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

"Following is an excerpt from my statement to the press making certain tentative ruling under Section 630, Revenue Law Plea E. Give this all possible publicity. The full statement given to the press is being mailed you tonight.

RATE OF TAX—The tax is measured by the price for which the food or drink is sold. It is on the actual sales price at the rate of one cent for each ten cents or fraction thereof of the amount paid for any of the articles mentioned in Section 630. Each sale for ten cents or less is taxed one cent, and each sale for over ten cents is taxed one cent for each ten cents or fraction thereof of the price, the tax is upon the whole of the amount of the price paid by the purchaser when the price is paid at one time, though in payment for several articles which are the subject of a single transaction of purchase and sale the total price paid is the unit for computing the tax, thus, if the purchaser orders two sodas at the same time, each sold for 15 cents, the tax is three cents and not four cents. If, however, he buys one soda for 15 cents, the tax is two cents and if he then immediately purchases another 15-cent drink the tax is two cents on the second sale which cannot be treated as part of the first sale. Any means by which separate purchasers pool their order for the purpose of defeating or escaping the tax imposed by Section 630, shall be carefully guarded against by the vendor for its employment subjects the purchaser and the vendor if he connives in it, to the penalties provided in Section 1308 of the Act.

ARTICLES TAXABLE—Examples, the following articles of food or drink are subject to tax within the meaning of Section 630 of the Revenue Act of 1918. All beverages when compounded or mixed at the fountain such as orangeade, lemonade, pineapple juice, coca cola, root beer, moxie, phos-

phates, fruit and flavoring syrups compounded or mixed with carbonated water or plain water, milk shakes in any form, malted milk shakes in any form, cream and egg shakes, ice-cream, ice-cream sodas, ice-cream sandwiches, ice-cream sundaes, ice-cream sandwiches, flavored ices and all other similar foods or drinks. This list, however, is not intended or considered to be complete but merely illustrative of the class of articles subject to tax.

BEVERAGES NOT TAXABLE—Examples: There are certain drinks which are often sold at soda fountains, ice cream parlors or similar places of business which are not regarded as soft drinks or ice cream products or similar articles of food or drink within the meaning of Section 630 of the Revenue Act of 1918. Such beverages are exemplified by hot beef tea, coffee, hot, cold or iced tea; hot, cold or iced buttermilk; milk, hot chocolate or cocoa, hot clam broth, hot clam bisque, hot tomato bisque and hot tomato bouillon. No tax applies on the sale of beverages or drinks such as ginger ale, root beer, moxie, mineral water, etc., when served directly from a container in which case the manufacturers' tax on such drinks has already been levied. See Section 628 of the Revenue Act of 1918. However, if any of the drinks or beverages here-in mentioned are compounded or mixed with carbonated water or extract or other ingredient at the fountain, they are taxable beverages, but taxable as medicinal preparations. There are certain medicines such as bromo seltzer, citrate of magnesia, rochelle salts, seditilz powders, bicarbonate of soda, castor oil, epsom salts and essence of pepsin which are often sold at soda fountains, ice cream parlors and similar places of business which are not soft drinks or ice cream products or similar articles of food or drink and hence are not taxable.

CARE OF GROWING CHICKS

At this time of the year when outside work is so pressing, it very often is the case that the poultry is neglected. This should not be. The care of young chicks is very important; it means the success or failure of next year's crop of eggs. Supposing at this time we put a little attention on this branch of farm work, so that an efficient basis is arranged; it will take but little time and thought, and still you will feel sure that the chicks are getting all the care and attention they need. Try feeding them three times a day on the following rations and do not forget that exercise is very necessary; 70 pounds cracked corn, 20 pounds oats, 10 pounds wheat. Feed this in deep litter, not too coarse, and fresh enough so that the grain goes out of sight when you scatter it. For the dry mash, use equal parts of bran, middlings, corn meal, ground oats, gluten feed and meat scraps. Meat scraps should not be added until the chicks are ten days old or more. If plenty of sour milk is fed, cut the meat scrap ration in half. Keep the dry mash hopper closed until noon, then give them all they want to eat in the afternoon.

Heat is necessary to chicks of this age when they first come from the incubator; but, of course, in a lesser degree. It is impracticable to mention any stated temperature for the different ages of chicks; one should go entirely by the actions of the chicks at night. Run the brooder temperature as cool as you can and not have the chicks crowd around the heater drum. If other information is desired, write to your county agent or to the Extension Service of the University of Vermont.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING EGGS

In order to get the highest prices for eggs, it is necessary to furnish a first-class product. With this in mind, A. L. Smith, poultry specialist for the Extension Service of the University of Vermont, suggests the following:

1. Eggs should be gathered once a day and put in a cool place, preferably in the cellar.
2. Market them twice a week.
3. Dirty eggs should not be brought in, use them at home.
4. To prevent too many dirty and cracked eggs, try putting in plenty of clean straw or hay in the nest. If the hens scratch it out, tack burlap over the straw. Also on damp, muddy days, try keeping the hens shut in the houses until 10 or 10:30 in the morning.
5. To prevent producing so many small eggs, hatch earlier and set only the largest and best shaped eggs of even color with firm shells.
6. Remove all male birds the day you stop saving eggs for setting purposes. About 10,000,000 worth of eggs were thrown out as rots last year. Who lost this money? The producers. This great waste can to a great extent be saved by following the above suggestions.

A rotten egg feeds no one. The hen delivers a good egg—do you?

Fred Reed of Newport was buried by a cave-in at the site of the Renihan block in Newport, where extensive repairs are being made. A fellow employee rescued him in time.

SOLDIERS' LETTERS

Letter Received by Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Hill from their son, Pvt. Hervie W. Hill of Co. I, 56th Infantry, Seventh Division, A. E. F.
Clamont, France,
April 5, 1919.

Dear People at Home:

Have some time before dinner, it is now 5 o'clock, and I'll try and write you some more about the most wonderful vacation I've ever had in my life. It surely is a great treat to come to such a place as this and I'll thank the American people who are footing the bill. I tell you I appreciate and enjoy it. It surely is a treat to visit the Alps, a place where only the very wealthy can visit in ordinary times.

Yesterday I loafed in the morning and in the afternoon took a hike onto the west mountain, or one of them. The view was wonderful: a fine view of Mt. Blanc and the Bosson Glacier. Went up about 2,000 feet above the town. It was hard climbing through the snow two feet deep, and as steep as the steepest part of Mt. Equinox. Had our pictures taken and then started down. In coming down we slid more than half the way. Some experience—and how we came. One of the fellows broke his ice pick and came down head first on his stomach. Can you beat it, down a steep mountain head first and landed in a little brook. Have not had so much fun since I left Springfield. We landed up in a great open space at the foot of one of the highest peaks where slides had cleared away all trees and rocks. The weather is mild and the snow is melting; just the right time for snow slides. I have seen my first one and let me say that I don't want to see another so close again. We were crossing an open space to find another place to take a slide when we heard a noise and looking up saw one coming toward us. It was about 100 feet in width and five or six feet deep. Believe me, I haven't been so scared since I hit France as I was then. When one of those, even a small one, that could be put on six or eight freight cars, starts your way, it is no place to linger and I surely did beat it for tall timber on the side of the woods. However, it stopped before it got to where we were. Had rather see a Hun division coming after us than be in such a place again.

Many persons have been caught. A long time ago a party was crossing the Bosson Glacier when an avalanche came along and carried a man down into one of the great crevices or the glacier. At the rate they move down the mountain it was figured that his body would come out in 31 years and I have been told that it did, of course being frozen into the ice. These glaciers thaw from the under side nearest the valley and in the summer they move down from the ever increasing pressure from above. In June, 1914, an avalanche came down and carried away part of a hotel and some cottages.

Well, we returned to the hotel, had supper and one of the boys played the piano. So they and the hotel girls danced until about 11 o'clock.

This morning got our lunch for noon and went to the Mer de Glace Glacier and it was some hike, more than 5,000 feet up and at the lower end at that. Went to the end of the trail and the guide stopped, telling us we were as far as it was safe to go. The boys wanted to go farther, so we did but at our own risk. Had a fine view, but was up only half way. One of the boys fell and slid down a ways, got scared and went back. When we came back, stopped at a little hotel. While there we saw another snow slide. It is a wonderful sight. The snow goes like a stream, the front rolling over and over like broken waves, taking rock and trees along with it.

After a little refreshment, we slid down the mountain and went back to town. Is surely is some experience, climbing these mountains. One can not realize their height by looking at them. Well, I must close now and go to chow.

With love,
HERVIE.

Letter From Private Alfred A. Seymour, to His Mother, Mrs. Frederick Seymour, of Dorset.
Group Laundry, Hospital Center, A. P. O. 731, April 7th, 1919.

Dear Mother:

I am just going to run off a few lines to tell you a little about my trip to Verdun yesterday, and put it in with a page which I wrote Saturday. We had a most wonderful day to go, it could not possibly have been better. The sun shone all day long and got to be very warm, so what more could we ask for? We started from here at 7:30 a. m. in a large truck. It had hard rubber tires, so of course it rode a little hard, but just the same we were free from any tire trouble, and got there and back again, if perhaps a little slow. We arrived at St. Mihiel at 11:30, and from there on we took our time about looking around. We left Verdun at about 6:30 last night and got back to camp here about 12:30 last night or rather this morning. We stopped at Neufchateau on our way in and got a lunch, as we were all pretty hungry, due to our good shaking up. I feel very well repaid for the trip, however, hard as it was

and I saw many things and places which I had never thought I would be able to. For one thing I saw the greatest battle field in the whole world, and that is at Verdun.

We at first hit St. Mihiel, where the Americans fought the first large battle by themselves. We saw everything of great interest in that vicinity, including several forts, etc., and then went on to Verdun which is, I should say, about 25 miles north of St. Mihiel. After stopping in the ruined city for a short time and buying a few post cards we went on through to the real battle fields which start in about five or six kilometers out of the city. There are trenches and trenches and dugouts as far as you can see, and it looks as if the land had been turned over many times by the bursting of shells. Every tree was cut off, so there are only the stumps left, and of course every one dead so far as we could see in every direction. In fact, the only thing we found on the whole battle field of any life were a few flowers, some of which I am enclosing with this letter. I picked them on Hill 304, which was called Dead Man's Curve, that is the road which we took around this hill. In a single battle on this hill there were as many as 90,000 Frenchmen killed outright, and these battle grounds claim as many as a million each of the French and German soldiers. The ground is very rolling and there are very large hills in places, every hill being protected by forts and trenches. Many of the trenches were of cement, and some of the dugouts had as many conveniences as possible. Some of them even had papered walls and windows. These, I imagine were occupied by the officers. It is about like walking through an unkempt cemetery as there are graves everywhere, with a cross at the head of each one bearing the number of the soldier and the French colors. Several of the fellows picked numerous old things for souvenirs, such as old shells and pieces of guns, etc., but I called my collection sufficient with a few rifle shells and the post cards which I bought, which better show the condition of Verdun and St. Mihiel. They both look as if they had been struck with an earthquake or a fire. There is not a whole building standing in the place. The roads are very good from here up there and in most of the places over the battle fields as they have been repaired a great deal by the engineers since the fighting stopped. I have a book of views of both St. Mihiel and Verdun which I will send home soon, and I have a few other cards which I am going to send out.

What I haven't told you by writing I hope to tell you soon personally, and will now come to a close for this time with much love to you all.

PVT. A. A. SEYMOUR.

STATE BANKERS' OFFER CLUB WORK PRIZES

The Vermont State Bankers' Association offers the following prizes through the State Club Leader, Agricultural Extension Service, of the University of Vermont, for best results in Boys' and Girls' Club Work during 1919.

1. State-wide cash prizes of \$5.00, \$3.00, \$2.00, in each of the 12 Club Work Projects.
2. In each county, cash prizes of \$3.00, \$2.00, \$1.00, in each of these club projects: garden, canning, pigs, poultry, potatoes, corn, calf, sheep, cooking, sewing, handicrafts.
3. 4-H Achievement Medals to each of each of the 12 State Club Champions for 1919.
4. Free trips are guaranteed to two Standard Club Teams to the Vermont State Fair, and also to two teams to the Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., in September.

BULL ASSOCIATIONS PROSPER

"A bull association would be a paying enterprise for our county, but the farmers here simply won't pull together on any proposition." This is the usual answer a representative from the United States Department of Agriculture gets when he goes into a new community and asks the individual farmers about the feasibility of organizing a bull association. But 55 bull associations have been organized in 21 States and are successfully operating. A specialist from the Dairy Division of the United States Department of Agriculture recently returned from a two months' trip to Kansas, Oklahoma, Georgia, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Mississippi. In those States he assisted in the initial steps for the organization of 14 more bull associations.

The first bull association was organized in Michigan in 1908. Since then 20 other States have taken up this work. Not a single farmer has ever lost a dollar by belonging. Better bulls are obtained for less money. Better dairy offspring results. More milk is produced for the same money. The investment for the individual farmer is small and the returns are sure.

Gay C. Roberts of Barre, member of the Canadian Field Artillery, was recently decorated with the British military medal.

JUDGE SLACK ELECTED TO SUPREME BENCH

Judge Haselton Retired and F. L. Webster Appointed to the Superior Court.

Montpelier, April 30—Seneca Haselton, first associate justice of the Supreme Court, has presented his resignation to Governor Clement, who has accepted the same, effective as of May 1st. Governor Clement will appoint to fill the vacancy Leighton P. Slack of St. Johnsbury, who will become the fourth associate justice, Justices G. M. Powers, William Taylor and W. W. Miles being advanced one number in the list of associate justices.

Judge Slack is fourth in the list of superior judges and Governor Clement will appoint to fill that vacancy Frederick L. Webster of Swanton, who will assume the sixth superior judgeship.

Justice Haselton has been in poor health for some months. Judge Slack is now trying a case in Windham county court which will be completed this week and his appointment will take place at the termination of that case. This will be in season so that he will sit with the other justices of the Supreme Court when the May term of court convenes Tuesday morning. Judge Slack has been a member of the Supreme Court before, having been similarly appointed by Governor Fletcher. Mr. Webster is the member of the House of Representatives from Swanton and is a strong member of the bar in Northern Vermont. Like Judge Haselton he is a democrat which is one of the reasons for the appointment.

Seneca Haselton, the retiring justice, was born in Westford February 26, 1848. He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1871, became instructor in mathematics in the University of Michigan in 1873 and later returned to Burlington. He was city judge for several years and a member of the House of Representatives in 1886. He was twice elected mayor of Burlington. In the second Cleveland administration he was appointed United States minister to Venezuela. In March, 1892, he was appointed associate justice of the Supreme Court and was chief of superior judges from 1906 to 1908. He has since been an associate justice of the Supreme Court.

OLDER GIRLS' CONFERENCE

The first annual conference of the Older Girls of Vermont was held at Community House, Rutland, May 2d, 3d and 4th. There were nearly four hundred delegates, representing about sixty Vermont towns. Some of the girls and their chaperones had to get up at 2 o'clock in the morning to make the first session, but they made it. The delegates came from girls' clubs of all kinds, colleges, schools, church and Sunday school organizations, and various community groups. The conference was arranged by the northeastern field committee of the national Young Women's Christian Association.

The community gymnasium was taxed to capacity Friday night for the opening banquet. Informal speaking followed the supper, after which the delegates attended a public meeting in the Congregational Church.

"The Girl and Her Community" was the theme of the conference and Dr. Oscar E. Maurer, D. D., of Center Church, New Haven, Conn., the speaker of the evening, in his address on "The Redemptive Community," made a stirring appeal for community service.

Dr. Maurer returned two months ago from a year in France, where he served as acting chaplain of the Yankee Division. He was gassed at Verdun shortly before fighting ceased, but kept on with his division, and was evacuated the day after the armistice was signed. In his address he drew constantly on his experience at the front to drive home his points.

"I always wanted to come to Vermont," said Dr. Maurer. "I had read about the battle of Bennington and I wanted to see if the girls in the Green Mountain State today have the 'pep' their grandmothers had."

"Your community is the place where you live and your problem is how to get along with folks. Is yours a 'pokey town'? What do you contribute to it? Some people think there must always be a scrap heap. Don't believe it. You girls have energy enough to make over the worst towns in Vermont, if they are your towns."

"Let me tell you something. For 36 hours a thin line of the 26th Division was the only force between the crown prince's army and Paris. There was the salient of St. Mihiel; the military experts said it couldn't be pinched off. Well, I was at St. Mihiel, and the only danger I was in was of running to death, keeping up with our soldiers, who were chasing the Huns."

"Girls, go home and conquer obstacles as the American boys conquered them in France."

"I was at Verdun when the armistice was signed at 11 o'clock. As though God had shut down a great cover on the world, the noise went out. Three or four hundred of us rushed into the cathedral for the bell ringing, and there English, Scotch, Americans, French and Mohammedans knelt down and together prayer, 'Our Father, Who art in Heaven.' That is the

prayer of the great world community."

Group conferences occupied Saturday morning, followed by a public session at the Baptist Church, Miss Fanny B. Fletcher of Proctorville, presiding. Rev. C. C. Merrill of Burlington, secretary of the Vermont Conference of Interdenominational Superintendents, addressed the girls on the subject, "Where the Church Comes In," and James P. Taylor of Burlington, secretary of the Greater Vermont Association, spoke on "Your Community—Your Job."

A luncheon for delegates in the community gymnasium, cafeteria service, was followed by a public meeting in the gymnasium. Mrs. Ludmila Kucharovna Foxlee, a native Bohemian, spoke on "History and Folk Lore of the Czech-Slovak People." Mrs. Foxlee wore her national costume, and illustrated her remarks with folk songs depicting episodes in the life of Bohemian girls. Mrs. Katharine Willard Eddy, recently returned from a year in the Orient, in an address on "Girls Around the World," told of changing conditions of women's life in India, Japan, and China since the great war.

Saturday evening was devoted to delegation "stunts" by Burr and Burton, Albany Normal, and the University of Vermont, and a general good time in charge of Miss Vera Barger who won her reputation as a recreation expert at Camp Funston. The evening was planned with the purpose of giving the girls something to take home to their communities.

The final meeting was a Vesper service at the Baptist Church, Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Miss Margaret Peck of Rutland, was elected president for the ensuing year and Miss Elizabeth Chittenden of Burlington, secretary.

Burlington has invited the conference to hold its next meeting in that city.

FARM LABOR SITUATION LESS SEVERE

Improvement in the farm labor situation this year over 1918 is reported by the Bureau of Crop Estimates, United States Department of Agriculture, after investigation in all agricultural counties of the United States. By improvement is meant net increase of supply and consequently more labor for planting, cultivating, and harvesting in relation to the work to be done. Wage rates were not included in the investigation.

Stated in percentage of a normal labor supply as related to a normal demand for labor, the actual supply of 1918 was 72 per cent and of 1919 it is 83 per cent—still inadequate without greater than normal dependence on machinery and animal, tractor, and motor power, and without more than usual labor by farmers and their families. However, the improvement over 1918 is considerable.

In both years the groups of States that were and are provided with labor in relation of supply to demand, less than, or at the most equal to, the average for the United States, are the North Atlantic, the South Atlantic, and the South Central.

Among these three groups of States, the greatest improvement is in the North Atlantic and the least is in the South Atlantic, and these extremes of high and low improvement are not equaled by the North Central and Western States, in each of which the average improvement is almost the same as that of the entire country. The improvement is evenly distributed throughout all State groups, except the North Atlantic States, where the gain is twice as great as in each of the other groups of States.

Apart from tendency toward relief from labor scarcity from 1918 to 1919, the situation this year is less favorable on the Atlantic coast, from New England to the South Atlantic States as a group, than in the States west of the Appalachian Mountains as groups, and in this long strip of coast the situation is worse in the South Atlantic group of States.

STATE NEWS

A cerebral hemorrhage caused by a fall resulted in the death of Kenneth E. Mosher, a widely known automobile dealer, in his home on Oak street, Brattleboro, Sunday. Mr. Mosher started to go to the bathroom before daylight and fell down an unguarded stairway near the bathroom door receiving a compound fracture of his left arm and injuries to his head. Two physicians were summoned and when they left there was no thought but that he would recover. He went to sleep and about two hours later Mrs. Mosher went to his room and found that he was dead. He came to Brattleboro in 1910 and was in the lively business six years, then selling his stable to devote his time to his automobile business, which grew to large proportions.

Lucius Webb, a prominent business man died at his home in East Granville Monday morning after months of suffering. He was 72 years of age and is survived by his second wife, two sons and a daughter.